

Youth Adventures in the Outdoors

September 2006 - February 2007



Shooting Pumpkins

Mark your calendars with a big BULLS-EYE for the next Shooting Pumpkins Youth Archery Clinic for youth 10 and up. Spend a day at the “pumpkin patch” on October 28, 2006, from 9:30 to 2:00 for olympic-style archery taught by the El Dorado Hills Bowmen Archery Club. Young archers and parents alike will have a great time learning archery basics while shooting at pumpkins and traditional bull’s eye targets. New this year, bal-



Lesa Johnston
At Shooting Pumpkins '05 there was only one surviving pumpkin. The kids are all smiles as they enjoyed the SPLAT of targeting the season's star vegetable!

loon ghosts will also be targeted at the Balloon Ghost Busting station! The cost is \$10 per youth with no charge for accompanying parent or guardian. The cost includes archery instruction, lunch, and snacks. This class is co-sponsored by the California Bowmen Hunters/State Archery Association and

pre-registration is required. Register online at: www.dfg.ca.gov/yo or call (916) 653-7748.



Wildlife Watching

Fall can mean different things for people and animals. While you might be preparing to go back to school, it is also a great time to take a hike to see what wildlife are up to. Deer are especially busy in the fall – selecting a mate and defending territory. This is often referred to as rutting season.

Deer found in California are mule deer. There are six sub-species that occur in California, including the black-tailed deer. Only male deer have

antlers. Antlers are comprised of true bone material and are shed in the winter (don't worry—they grow back in the spring!). During the fall, antlers can indicate to a potential mate that the male is healthy and fit. Antlers also serve as a defense against other bucks that may want to engage in a fight over a doe and territory.

If you are out and about in the woods during the fall, remember rutting season can be very stressful and tense for deer. Take care to keep a safe and respectful distance — and happy deer watching!

Get Outdoors with Ducks And Learn New Outdoor Skills!

Have you ever visited a duck hatchery, banded ducks, searched for duck nests, monitored

A truly unique set of activities was provided the campers at California Waterfowl Association's first annual

‘Waterfowl Hunter’ camp at Rancho Esquon in Durham, CA this past May. The campers witnessed eggs hatching, handled 1-day old baby ducks, banded 5-week old mallards and then released them into the wildlife area. The campers also searched a field for nests and found duck eggs before the plow could get them. Wow, what a weekend!



Loretta Gardiner guides campers through the process of releasing five-week-old mallard ducks.

wood duck boxes, made quail calls, entered a distance judging competition, and eaten scrumptious BBQ duck and all of that in one ‘grand slam’ day?

All of this was “wrapped around” a DFG Hunter Education program. On top of that, all of the campers are invited back to Rancho Esquon for the youth waterfowl hunt this winter for a “camp reunion!”



Matt Risse and Jake Weber discover a mallard nest in an agricultural field. The eggs will be salvaged and the ducks eventually released back into the wild.



Jennifer Weber practices calling in the ducks.

The whirlwind of activities, wonderful accommodations, and great volunteers provided an “experience of a lifetime” for the kids. Where can you find a weekend camp like this? Check out CWA Youth Camp programs at www.calwaterfowl.org. Follow the ‘Youth Education’ link and select ‘CWA Camps Take Flight’ for more youth camp opportunities.

How about touring a wildlife area on a Polaris Ranger ATV, then shooting archery, rifles and shotguns, duck calling, learning to identify waterfowl and decoy layouts, painting your own hunting decoy and enjoying a great camp atmosphere?

Use this space for mailing information and postage.

www.dfg.ca.gov/yo/

September 2006

Remember to apply for September youth hunts in August!

- 2 First Saturday at the Zoo, Sacramento Zoo. 9am-4 pm \$ (916) 264-5888 www.saczoo.com
- 8 Last day to apply for Junior Waterfowl Hunt, Modoc National Wildlife Refuge. (530) 233-3572 <http://modoc.fws.gov> – link to hunting information, then 2006 junior hunts
- 9 CWA Calling Intensive Hunter Skills Clinic, Butte County. \$ (916) 648-1406 www.calwaterfowl.org
- 9-10 California Deer Association and DFG Junior Deer Hunt, Canada de los Osos Ecological Reserve, Santa Clara County. Apply by Aug 9, (831) 649-2870 www.CalDeer.com www.dfg.ca.gov
- 10 Ocean Beach Clean Up, San Francisco Zoo. 10 am-12pm. Free (415) 753-7073 www.sfzoo.org
- 14 Last day to apply for California Deer Association and DFG Junior Wild Pig Hunt, Canada de los Osos Ecological Reserve, Santa Clara County. (831) 649-2870 www.CalDeer.com www.dfg.ca.gov
- 14-17 Lodi Grape Festival and Harvest Fair, San Joaquin County. \$ (209) 333-6742 www.grapefestival.com
- 14-Oct14 13th Annual KRV Turkey Vulture Watch, Kern County. Free (760) 378-4173 <http://kern.audubon.org>
- 16 Wings of the Warners Festival. Free. (530) 233-3572 <http://modoc.fws.gov/>
- 16 Great American River Cleanup, Sacramento County. Free (916) 486-2773 www.arpf.org/cleanup.htm
- 16 Junior Pheasant Hunt, Butte Valley Wildlife Area, Siskiyou County. Free (530) 398-4627 www.dgf.ca.gov
- 16 California Coastal Cleanup Day, Coastal California. 9 am - Noon Free (800) COAST4U www.coastforyou.org
- 16 Upper Newport Bay Cleanup Day, Orange County. 8 am-1 pm. Free (949) 923-2295 www.newportbay.org
- 16-17 Conaway Ranch Waterfowl Hunters Camp, Yolo County. \$ (916) 648-1406 www.calwaterfowl.org
- 16-17 Junior Deer Hunt, Chimineas Unit, Carrizo Plain Ecological Reserve. (831) 649-2870 www.dfg.ca.gov. Apply by August 18
- 20 Last Day to apply for Sierra Valley Headwater Honker Preserve Junior Pheasant Hunt, Plumas County. Free (916) 358-2839 www.dfg.ca.gov
- 23 Junior Waterfowl Hunt, Modoc National Wildlife Refuge. (530) 233-3572 <http://www.fws.gov/modoc/> link to hunting information, then 2006 junior hunts
- 23 Let's Get Aquatic! Youth Kayaking Clinic, Lake Natoma, Sacramento County. \$ (916) 653-7748
- 23 Statewide Free Fishing Day, Department of Fish and Game (916) 358-2872, (415) 892-0460, (562) 590-4835, (559) 243-1462 www.dfg.ca.gov
- 23 Oroville Salmon Festival, Butte County. Free (530) 538-2542 www.orovillechamber.net http://www.dfg.ca.gov/lands/fh/feather/feather_index.htm
- 29 Last day to apply for Springville Junior Quail Hunt, Tulare County. (559) 243-4005 x165
- 30 13th annual National Public Lands Day, Across the State. Free (202) 833-2933 www.npld.com
- 30 National Estuaries Day, San Diego County. Free (619) 575-3613 www.estuaries.gov www.tijuanaestuary.com
- 30-Oct. 1 12th Annual Kern River Valley Turkey Vulture Festival. Free \$ for some field trips <http://kern.audubon.org/tvfest.htm>
- 30 Mendota Wildlife Area Cleanup, Fresno County. 8a.m. Free (559) 655-4645
- 30 Shark Day: Celebrate National Wildlife Refuge Week, Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge, Alviso. 1 pm – 4 pm Free Make reservations (408) 262-5513 www.fws.gov/desfbay
- TBA Upper Butte Basin Wildlife Area Cleanup, Butte County. Free (530) 982-2169
- TBA Youth Waterfowl Hunt Days in Northeastern Zone, tentatively the weekend prior to the opening of regular season. Call for the dates and details. (530) 225-2300

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October 2006

- 7 Brush-up Day, Sacramento & Delevan National Wildlife Refuges, Glenn County. Free (530) 934-2801 <http://sacramentovalleyrefuges.fws.gov>
- 7 9th Annual Tarantula Fest and Fall BBQ, Santa Clara County. 10am-4 pm. \$ (408) 779-2728 www.coepark.org
- 8 Welcome Back Monarchs Day, Natural Bridges State Park, Santa Cruz. 10am-4 pm (831) 423-4609 (800) 833-3494 www.santacruzca.org
- 8 Sierra Valley Headwater Honker Preserve Junior Pheasant Hunt, Plumas County. Free (916) 358-2839 www.dfg.ca.gov
- 8 Trinity County Salmon Festival, Trinity County. Free (530) 623-6004.
- 8-14 National Wildlife Refuge Week Event, Modoc NWR. Free (530) 233-3572 <http://modoc.fws.gov/>
- 11 Last day to apply for Yuba County Fish and Game Commission Junior Pheasant Hunt, Yuba County. Free (916) 358-2839, (530) 743-5068 www.dfg.ca.gov
- 11 Last day to apply for Sutter County Fish and Game Commission Junior Pheasant Hunt, Sutter County. Free (530) 743-5068, (916) 358-2839 www.dfg.ca.gov
- 14 National Wildlife Refuge Week Event, Glenn County. Free (530) 934-2801 <http://sacramentovalleyrefuges.fws.gov>
- 14-15 American River Salmon Festival, Sacramento County. 10am-4 pm. (916) 358-2893 www.salmonfestival.net/
- 14-15 California Deer Association and DFG Fall Junior Pig Hunt, Canada de los Osos Ecological Reserve, Santa Clara County. Apply by Sept 14, (831) 649-2870 www.CalDeer.com www.dfg.ca.gov
- 15 Truckee River Day, Nevada County. Free (530) 550-8760 www.truckeeriverday.org
- 18 Last day to apply for California Deer Association and DFG Junior Upland Gamebird Hunt, Canada de los Osos Ecological Reserve, Santa Clara County. (831) 649-2870 www.CalDeer.com www.dfg.ca.gov
- 18 Last day to apply for Yuba-Sutter DFG Junior Pheasant Hunt, Yuba County. Free, a.m. and p.m. (916) 358-2839 www.dfg.ca.gov
- 21 Junior Quail Hunt, Springville, Tulare County. (559) 243-4005 ext 165 Deadline September 29
- 21 Return of the Salmon Festival, Shasta County. Free, 11 am – 3 pm (530) 378-1002, (530) 365-8622 <http://www.shastacascade.org/shasta/shcoe.htm>

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October continued

- 25 Last day to apply for Little Dry Creek Wildlife Area Family Pheasant Hunt, Butte County. \$ (530) 982-2169, (916) 358-2839 www.dfg.ca.gov
- 27-28 Wild Night Family Overnight “Spooky Sleepover,” San Francisco Zoo. 6:30 pm-9:30 am \$ (415)753-8124 www.sfzoo.org
- 28 Shooting Pumpkins: Youth Archery Clinic, El Dorado Hills. \$ (916) 653-7748
- 28 Yuba County Fish and Game Commission Junior Pheasant Hunt, Sutter County. Free (530) 743-5068, (916) 358-2839 www.dfg.ca.gov
- 28 “Spooky Slough” Slough Paddle, 7-9 p.m., Don Edwards San Francisco Bay NWR. \$ Wear costumes.Call for reservations (408) 762-5513
- 29 Sutter County Fish and Game Commission Junior Pheasant Hunt, Sutter County. Free, (530) 743-5068, (916) 358-2839 www.dfg.ca.gov
- 31 Boo at the Zoo, Sacramento Zoo. 4:30-8:30 pm. \$ (916) 264-5888 www.saczoo.com
- TBA Crane Tour Day at Merced NWR, Merced County. Free (209) 826-3508 www.fws.gov/sanluis
- TBA Junior Waterfowl Hunts at Lower Klamath NWR, Siskiyou County, 2nd and 3rd Saturdays after season starts and Saturday following Thanksgiving. Junior hunts afternoon. (530) 667-2231

November 2006

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- Remember to apply for December youth waterfowl hunts in November!
- 1 Last day to apply for Little Dry Creek Wildlife Area Junior Pheasant Hunt, Butte County. Free (530) 982-2169, (916) 358-2839 www.dfg.ca.gov
 - 1 Last day to apply for Delta Islands Wildlife Area Junior Pheasant Hunt, Sacramento County. Reservations required. (916) 358-2839 www.delta.dfg.ca.gov
 - 1 Last day to apply for Yolo Wildlife Area Junior Pheasant Hunt, Yolo County. Free (530) 757-2461, (916) 358-2839 www.dfg.ca.gov www.yolobasin.org
 - 2 Last day to apply for Gray Lodge Wildlife Area Junior Pheasant Hunt, Butte County. Free (530) 846-7500, (916) 358-2839 www.dfg.ca.gov
 - 3 Last day to apply for Junior Pheasant Hunt, Modoc National Wildlife Refuge (530) 233-3572 <http://www.fws.gov/modoc/junior.htm>
 - 3-5 Sandhill Crane Festival, San Joaquin County. \$ (209) 367-7840 www.lodichamber.com/cranefestival.asp
 - 4,5 Yuba-Sutter DFG Junior Pheasant Hunt, Yuba County. Free a.m. and p.m. (916) 358-2839 www.dfg.ca.gov
 - 11, 12 Taft Junior Pheasant Hunt, Kern County. Reservations required. (559) 243-4005 ext 165
 - 12 Little Dry Creek Wildlife Area Family Pheasant Hunt, Butte County. \$ (530) 982-2169, (916) 358-2839 www.dfg.ca.gov
 - 12 San Jacinto Wildlife Area Junior Pheasant Hunt, Riverside County. Reservations required. (760) 922-4686 apply online at www.dfg.ca.gov – link to hunting, then gamebird heritage special hunts
 - 13 Special Monday pheasant hunts, Glenn County. (530) 934-2801 <http://sacramentovalleyrefuges.fws.gov>
 - 15 Last day to apply for Oroville Wildlife Area Junior Pheasant Hunt, Oroville Wildlife area, Butte County. Free, (530) 538-2236, (916) 358-2839 www.dfg.ca.gov
 - 18 22nd annual Trout Bout fishing tournament for all ages, Oak Grove Regional Park, Stockton, \$ for age 16 and older (209) 331-2050
 - 18 Gray Lodge Wildlife Area Junior Pheasant Hunt, Butte County. Free (530) 846-7500, (916) 358-2839 www.dfg.ca.gov
 - 18 Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area Junior Pheasant Hunt, Yolo County. Free (530) 757-2461, (916) 358-2839 www.dfg.ca.gov www.yolobasin.org
 - 18 Delta Islands Wildlife Area Junior Pheasant Hunt, Sacramento County. Reservations required. (916) 358-2839 www.delta.dfg.ca.gov
 - 18 O’Neal Forebay Wildlife Area Junior Pheasant Hunts, Merced County. Reservations required. (209) 826-0463, (559) 243-4005 ext. 165
 - 18 Junior Pheasant Hunts at Mendota Wildlife Area. Reservations required. (559) 243-4005 ext 165
 - 18-19 Grizzly Island Junior Pheasant Hunt, Soloano County. Free. (707) 425-3828
 - 18-19 California Deer Association and DFG Fall Junior Upland Gamebird Hunt, Canada de los Osos Ecological Reserve, Santa Clara County. Apply by Oct 18, (831) 649-2870
 - 18-19 Junior Pheasant Hunt, Lake Isabella, Kern County. Reservations required. \$ (760) 379-3482, (760) 376-2804, (916) 358-2877 (559)243-4005 ext. 165 www.dfg.ca.gov
 - 18-19 Little Dry Creek Wildlife Area Junior Pheasant Hunt, Butte County. Free (530) 982-2169, (916) 358-2839 www.dfg.ca.gov
 - 18-19 Success Lake Junior Pheasant Hunt, Tulare County. Reservations required. (559) 781-6087, (559) 243-4005 ext 165
 - 19 Junior Pheasant Hunt, Modoc National Wildlife Refuge (530) 233-3572 <http://www.fws.gov/modoc/junior.htm>
 - 24 Thankzoo, Sacramento Zoo. 10 am-4 pm. Free (916) 264-5888 www.saczoo.com
 - 30 Last day to apply for Llano Seco Ranch Junior Pheasant Hunt, Butte County. Free (530) 934-2801 <http://sacramentovalleyrefuges.fws.gov>
 - TBA Junior Waterfowl Hunt, Klamath NWR. Free (916) 358-2877. <http://www.fws.gov/klamathbasinrefuges/>

December 2006

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- 2 O’Neal Forebay Wildlife Area Junior Pheasant Hunts, Merced County. Reservations required. (209) 826-0463, (559) 243-4005 ext. 165
- 2 Junior Pheasant Hunts at Mendota Wildlife Area. Reservations required. (559) 243-4005 ext 165
- 2-3 Oroville Wildlife Area Junior Pheasant Hunt, Oroville Wildlife Area, Butte County. Free, (530) 538-2236, (916) 358-2839 www.dfg.ca.gov
- 9 Holiday Magic, Sacramento Zoo. 10 am-4 pm. \$ (916) 264-5888 www.saczoo.com
- 9 Sacramento NWR Youth Waterfowl Hunt, Glenn County. Apply by mail in November. Free (530) 934-2801 <http://sacramentovalleyrefuges.fws.gov>
- 10 Llano Seco Ranch Junior Pheasant Hunt, Butte County. Apply by mail in November. Free (530) 934-2801 <http://sacramentovalleyrefuges.fws.gov>
- 9 Grizzly Island Assigned Blind Junior Waterfowl Hunt. Free. (707) 425-3828.

December continued

- 15-Jan 6 Christmas Bird Count, Across the State. Details on getting involved in your area at www.audubon.org/bird/cbc
<http://natureali.org/cbcs.htm>
- 16 Delevan NWR Youth Waterfowl Hunt, Colusa County. Apply by mail in November. Free (530) 934-2801
<http://sacramentovalleyrefuges.fws.gov>
- 24 The Night Before Christmas Day, Sacramento Zoo. 10 am- 1:30 pm. Free (916) 264-5888 www.saczoo.com
- 27 Grizzly Island Assigned Blind Junior Waterfowl Hunt. Free. (707) 425-3828

January 2007

- 11-14 Youth Fair, San Mateo International Sportsmen's Exposition, San Mateo County. \$ (650) 574-3247, (800) 338-EXPO
www.sportsexpos.com www.sanmateoexpo.org
- 12-15 Morro Bay Winter Bird Festival, San Luis Obispo County. \$ (805) 772-4467 or (800) 231- 0592
<http://www.morrobaybirdfestival.org> www.morrobay.org
- 18-21 Youth Fair, Sacramento International Sportsmen's Exposition, Cal Expo, Sacramento County. \$ www.sportsexpos.com
www.calexpo.com (916) 263-3000, (877) CALEXPO
- 26-28 Snow Goose Festival, Butte County. \$ (530) 345-1865
www.snowgoosefestival.org www.sacrivetrust.org
- TBA Youth Waterfowl Hunt Days, balance of the state zone. Tentatively the weekend following the close of the regular season. (916) 445-3445 www.calwaterfowl.org, www.dfg.ca.gov



February 2007

- 2-4 San Francisco Bay Flyway Festival, Solano County. \$ (707) 557-9816, (707) 649-9464
www.sfbayflywayfestival.com
- 7-12 11th annual San Diego Bird Festival, Mission Bay, San Diego County. Free (619) 516-0139
<http://www.sandiegoaudubon.org/birdfest.htm>
- 10, 11 Junior Pheasant Hunt, San Luis Obispo County. Free (805) 238-4236
- 15-18 Klamath Winter Wings Festival, Klamath Falls. \$ (800) 445-6728
<http://www.winterwingsfest.org>
- 16-18 Los Angeles International Sportsmen's Exposition, Pomona. www.sportsexpos.com
- 16-19 Great Backyard Bird Count. <http://www.birdsource.org/gbbc/>
- 23-24 California Duck Days, Yolo County. \$ (530) 757-3780
www.yolobasin.org



Youth Adventures in the Outdoors is published twice a year by the Youth in the Outdoors subcommittee of the Al Taucher Advisory Committee to the California Fish and Game Commission. Youth in the Outdoors is a partnership to facilitate the conservation, enhancement, and restoration of our fish and wildlife and habitats through the education and participation of our youth in California's outdoor heritage.

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To list events for your organization, call Lizette at (916) 648-1406.

Alternative communication formats are available upon request. If reasonable accommodation is needed call the CA Department of Fish and Game, Office of Communications, Education and Outreach at (916) 653-7748 or the California Relay Service for the deaf or hearing-impaired from TDD phones at (800) 735-2929.

"Don't toss me away... I am made to mulch."

YOUTH IN THE OUTDOORS PARTNERS

California Department of Fish and Game

Northern District: (530) 225-2304
Hunter Education Recording: (530) 225-2303
Sacramento Valley and Central Sierra Region: (916) 358-2900
Hunter Education Recording: (916) 351-0833
North Coast District: (707) 944-5540
Hunter Education: (707) 944-5548
Central District Office: (559) 243-4005 ex 124
Hunter Education: (559) 243-4005 ex 175
Southern District: (562) 799-8381
Hunter Education: (760) 947-8859
General Information and Hunter Education: (916) 653-1235
www.dfg.ca.gov/huntered



California Bowmen Hunters / State Archery Association

(530) 751-7767 www.cbhsaa.org

CA Foundation for North American Wild Sheep

(925) 659-0221 www.cafnaws.org



California Waterfowl Association

(916) 648-1406 www.calwaterfowl.org



The Mule Deer Foundation

(888) 375-3337 www.muledeer.org



National Audubon Society - California

(916) 481-5332 www.audubon-ca.org



The National Wild Turkey Federation

(916) 939-6600 www.nwtf.org

Quail Unlimited

(909) 767-3435 www.qu.org



Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation

(530) 842-2021 www.rmef.org



Sacramento Trapshooting Club

(916) 481-1336 www.sacramentotrap.com



Safari Club International

(520) 620-1220 / (925) 937-4180
www.SafariClub.org www.sci-foundation.org



Sierra Club

(916) 557-1100 www.sierraclub.org



US Sportsmen's Alliance Foundation

(614) 888 4868 www.ussportsmen.org



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Coleman National Fish Hatchery (530) 365-8622
Hopper Mountain NWR Complex (805) 644-5185
Humboldt Bay NWR (707) 733-5406
Kern NWR Complex (661) 725-2767
Klamath Basin NWR Complex (530) 667-2231
Lower Colorado River NWR Complex (520) 343-8112
Modoc NWR (530) 233-3572
Sacramento NWR Complex (530) 934-2801
Sonny Bono Salton Sea NWR Complex (760) 348-5278
San Diego NWR Complex (760) 930-0168
San Francisco Bay NWR Complex (510) 792-0222
San Luis NWR Complex (209) 826-3508
Stone Lakes NWR Complex (916) 775-4421
<http://www.fws.gov>

